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Inside Wallops

NASA Dedicates Space Shuttle Columbia Memorial

The families of the Space Shuttle Columbia STS-107 crew and NASA Administrator Sean O'Keefe have unveiled a monument at Arlington (VA), National Cemetery, commemorating the astronauts and their mission

Administrator O'Keefe said, "This memorial will remind us of the dedication and sacrifice made by those brave individuals willing to risk their own lives to further humanity's knowledge about space exploration."

"Our obligation is to ensure their loss was not in vain. We will return the Space Shuttle to flight as safe as humanly possible, and we will continue to lead humanity into the unknown," Administrator O'Keefe said.

In April President Bush signed into law the Columbia Orbiter Memorial Act (PL 108-11) making January 29 a Day of Remembrance.

Pictures of the memorial can be viewed at <http://www.nasa.gov>

The Shoshone-Bannock Nation Remembers the Columbia Crew



NASA Photo

Dancers from the Shoshoni-Bannock Junior-Senior High School, Fort Hall, Idaho, (above) performed a healing ceremony during a memorial service held at the Space Memorial Mirror for the crew of the orbiter Columbia.

Students and staff of the Shoshone-Bannock Nation had an experiment in one of the Space Experiment Modules (SEM) on board Columbia. Approximately 40 members of the Shoshone-Bannock community attended the memorial service, held in the Kennedy Space Center Visitor Complex.

February 1 was the one-year anniversary of the loss of the crew and orbiter Columbia in a tragic accident as the ship returned to Earth following mission STS-107.

The SEM Program is a NASA educational initiative by the Wallops Shuttle Small Payloads Office that provides nationwide access to space for kindergarten through university level students.

Wallops Shorts.....

In the News

SpaceNews

"Suborbital Scientific Payload Studies Mercury"

On the Road

Dave Kotsifakis, NASA GN&C Mission Systems Engineering Branch, gave a presentation to first grade students at the Worcester Preparatory School, Berlin, MD., on February 3.

Ed Parrott, Wallops Teacher-on-Loan, did a presentation on space and the solar system for approximately 148 students at Whittington Elementary School, Crisfield, MD., on February 6.

A Renewed Commitment to Excellence

The results of the Columbia Accident Investigation Board's (CAIB) report are part of a new chronicle, "A Renewed Commitment to Excellence," put together by a group of NASA employees, led by Goddard Space Flight Center Director Al Diaz.

The group discovered about half of the CAIB report's recommendations, observations, and findings have applications throughout the agency.

The report may be found on <http://www.nasa.gov> and a limited number of copies will be provided to every NASA Center in the coming days.

Happy President's Day

Two of America's greatest leaders, George Washington and Abraham Lincoln, were born during February. Lincoln was born on February 12.

Washington's birthday (February 22) is celebrated as a federal holiday on the third Monday in February.



In 1971, President Richard Nixon proclaimed one single federal holiday, the Presidents' Day, to be observed on the 3rd Monday of February, honoring all past presidents of the United States of America.

Cold, Dry and Windy

by Bob Steiner, Meteorologist

Things were looking good when January started on a warm note setting two daily record highs on the 3rd and the 4th. The mercury climbed to 70 and 72 degrees respectively and tied a daily record with a reading of 66 degrees on the 5th. From that point on temperatures only achieved the normal for the day on four other days.



We experienced 12 days when the daily high was 32 degrees or below. There were 26 nights with minimum temperatures of 32 degrees or below. The low was in the teens on eight nights. The reading of 9 degrees on January 11 was the coldest morning of the month. The 13 degrees achieved on the 25th set a daily record low. All this produced a monthly average temperature of 32.4 degrees, which is 3.6 degrees below normal for January.

January also was drier. We only recorded a total of 2.1 inches of liquid precipitation and the average is 3.21 inches.

Wallops experienced measurable snow on two days in January, which is average for the month. Our total snowfall of 3.4 inches was above the normal of 2.92 inches by 0.48 inches.

Wallops experienced winds of 29 mph or greater on 11 days during the month with the strongest being 44 mph at 1:32 p.m. on January 28.

With winter slowly winding down we can look towards March and the arrival of spring. March comes in with average high temperatures near 49 degrees, increasing into the mid 50's by the end of the month. Overnight lows start out around 30 degrees, improving to 40 degrees by March 31.

The record high temperature for March occurred on March 13, 1990 with a reading of 86 degrees. The record low of 14 degrees happened on two occasions, first on March 1, 1980 and again on March 4, 1996.

March also is the wettest month of the year with an average rainfall of 3.98 inches, falling on 10 days. Measurable snow normally falls on 0.5 days during the month with an average total of 0.9 inches.

During March, we begin to awake from our winter doldrums and start preparations for summer fun. March storms are not uncommon, and we should remain alert for one or two winter type storms.

De-Stress Your Life

February 26, 2004

11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

E-2 Training Room

How we cope with stress significantly impacts the quality of our lives. Understanding how to manage stress is critical to success on the job.

To register call Pat Dworske on x2394 or e-mail

Patricia.J.Dworske@nasa.gov

Career Coach at Wallops

Career Coach, Cheryl Palmer, will be at Wallops on February 25 and February 26, for private appointments with Civil Service employees.

To schedule an individual, confidential appointment, call Tracey White on x 66-7823.

February is American Heart Month

Heart disease is the leading cause of death in the United States. It affects men and women of every age and race.

During American Heart Month, Americans are encouraged to join the fight against heart disease and learn more about how to prevent it.



More than 64 million Americans suffer from one or more forms of cardiovascular disease, including high blood pressure, coronary heart disease, congestive heart failure, stroke, and congenital heart defects.

Many of the risk factors that can lead to heart disease, such as high blood pressure, high blood cholesterol, and diabetes, can be prevented or controlled.

Research has shown that men and women who lead healthy lifestyles, including making healthy food choices, getting regular exercise, maintaining a healthy weight, and choosing not to smoke or drink excessively, can significantly decrease their risk of heart disease.

Heart disease is responsible for the deaths of one in three women in the United States. Women are encouraged to learn more about heart health, to lead healthier lives, and to talk with their doctors about their risk for developing heart disease.

During American Heart Month, take the time to learn more about heart health and the risk factors for serious heart conditions. By making healthy choices, we can live longer and better lives.

NASA Scholarship

The NASA College Scholarship Fund, Inc., a Texas non-profit corporation, was established to award scholarships to qualified dependents of NASA and former NASA employees Agencywide.

The scholarship fund was established as the direct result of a substantial unsolicited gift offer by the noted Pulitzer Prize winning author, James A. Michener, who gave as his reasons for the gift that he held the people of NASA in such high esteem for their good work through the years that he thought it important for education to go forward in this country.

Many NASA employees have also contributed to the fund directly or through the Combined Federal Campaign.

Five scholarships will be awarded in the amount of \$2,000 each in the 2004-2005 school year. The renewable scholarship is for a maximum of \$8,000 over 6 calendar years.

Applicants must be pursuing a course of study in a science or engineering field that will lead to a recognized undergraduate degree at an accredited college or university in the United States.

Application forms are available online at: <http://jscpeople.jsc.nasa.gov/ncsf.htm>.

All applications and supporting materials must be submitted by March 22, 2004.



February 15
Building F-3

Bring a covered dish and watch the race on the big screen.

Doors open at Noon.



Happy
Valentine's Day

Inside Wallops is an official publication of Goddard Space Flight Center and is published by the Wallops Office of Public Affairs, Extension 1584, in the interest of Wallops employees. Recent and past issues of *Inside Wallops* may be found on the NASA Wallops Flight Facility homepage: www.wff.nasa.gov

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